

**SURGICAL SYSTEM AND PROCEDURE FOR TREATMENT OF  
MEDICALLY REFRACTORY ATRIAL FIBRILLATION**

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**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

10 The invention provides surgical systems and methods for ablating heart tissue within the interior and/or exterior of the heart. A plurality of probes is provided with each probe configured for introduction into the chest for engaging the heart. Each probe includes an elongated shaft having an elongated ablating surface of a predetermined shape. The elongated shaft and the elongated ablating surface of each probe are configured to ablate a portion of the heart. A sealing device affixed to the heart tissue forms a hemostatic seal between the probe and the penetration in the heart to inhibit blood loss therethrough.